

back, and by the rufous rump and tail-coverts. (Described from 9 adult males.)

LANIUS PHÆNICUROIDES RADDEI, Dress. (= *Lanius dichrurus*, Menzb.)

Adult male: Grey above, with pure grey head, rump and upper tail-coverts, the mantle sometimes more or less suffused with olivaceous. The tail almost as in *L. collurio*, but sometimes more or less suffused with rufous on its distal half. The type of *L. dichrurus* which is in very worn plumage has a pure grey back and an excessive development of black on the tail.

“*Lanius collurio*, L., stands very near to the group just described, but is a quite distinct species, not connected with the *L. phœnicuroides*-group by any intermediate forms. The very archaic coloration of its female tells of an early separation from the phylogenetical stem of *L. phœnicuroides*.”

The following communication was read from Mr. W. L. Selater, recording the discovery of a new species of Love-bird, which he proposed to name:

AGAPORNIS NIGRIGENIS, sp. n.

General colour green, tinged with olive on the hinder half of the head and neck, brighter on the tail-coverts; front half of the crown and forehead sienna-brown; sides of the face, including the ear-coverts and throat black; quills dusky, washed with bluish-green on the outer-webs; tail dark-green, all but the middle pair of feathers with a red stripe along the shaft and a subterminal dusky spot; under-surface green, slightly lighter than the back, and with a patch of salmon-red on the lower throat.

Bill rosy-red, paler, almost white at the base; legs brown (in skin). Length (in skin) 6·25, wing 3·6, tail 1·6, culmen ·62, tarsus ·50.

“This is a very distinct species, at once recognisable by its black face.

“The type (South African Museum, Reg. No. 3485), was obtained by Dr. A. H. B. Kirkman, on the Muguazi River, some fifteen miles from its junction with the Zambesi, in North-west Rhodesia, in September, 1904. Last year (1905) Dr. Kirkman, together with Mr. C. Struben, made another shooting trip into the same country, and procured a second example, a female, at the same place, while about twenty miles further on he found the birds fairly common in small flocks on the Majelie River, but did not obtain any more examples; he did not observe them on the banks of the Zambesi itself. Both the rivers mentioned are northern tributaries of the Zambesi, joining that river between Sesheke and Victoria Falls.

“The second specimen, the female, which I have been able to examine through the kindness of Dr. Kirkman, has the front of the head dusky rather than sienna-brown, and this colour does not extend so far back as in the case of the original specimen, which I take to be a male.”

On behalf of his son, Dr. SCLATER exhibited and handed round a complete copy of the fourth and last volume of Stark & Sclater's "Birds of South Africa," the issue of which had been delayed by the necessity of sending the index out to South Africa for final revision. He stated that the work would be ready for publication in about a fortnight.

This volume contained the account of the game, shore, and water-birds, numbering altogether about 250 species.

Dr. SCLATER stated that he had received letters from his son at Cape Town, informing him of the arrival there on the 28th of January of Lord Crawford in the R.Y.S. "Valhalla," and that Mr. Meade-Waldo and Mr. Nicoll were in good health. The "Valhalla" had met with fine weather at South Trinidad Island, and a good series of birds had been secured. At Tristan da Cunha, unfortunately, the reverse had been the case, and after waiting three days the "Valhalla" had been compelled to leave without being able to land the Naturalists.